

INTIMATIONS.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

(ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841).

HONGKONG.

To invitation to the following old brandies, all of which are excellent quality and good value for the money.

The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most famous distillers, are imported in wood and bottled in our own cellars, thus enabling us to supply the best goods at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state name and quantity of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

Orders through Local Post or by Telegram receive prompt attention.

P. DTS. (For Invalids and general use.)

Per Case. Per Bot.

A. Alto Donco, good quality, 810 \$1.00

B. Vintage, superior quality, 12 1.10

C. Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal, 14 1.25

D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Black Seal, 18 1.50

SHERIDAN'S

A. Dulce, Pils Dry, dinner wine, Green Cap, 6 0.60

B. Superior Pils Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal, 7.50 0.75

C. Manzanilla, Sherry, White Cap, 10 1.00

CC Superior Old Pils, Natural Sherry, Red Seal, 10 1.00

D. Very Superior Old Pils, Dry, choice old wine, White Seal, 12 1.10

E. Extra Superior Old Pils, Dry, choice old wine, Black Seal, 14 1.25

CLARETS.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret, 84 4.50

B. St. Raphael, Red Cap, 4.50 5.00

C. St. Julien, 7 5.50

D. La Roche, 11 12.00

BRANDY.

A. Hennessy's Old Pils, Red Cap, 112 \$1.10

B. Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Cap, 14 1.35

C. Very Old Cognac, 18 1.50

D. Hennessy's Fine Old Cognac, 24 2.00

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A. Watson's Blend, White Cap, 8 0.75

B. Watson's Glenorchy, Molloy Blend, White Cap, 8 0.75

C. Watson's Aboulo-Glenorchy, Red Cap, 8 0.75

D. Watson's H. K. Blend, White Cap, 10 1.00

E. Watson's Very Old Liqueur, Scotch Whisky, White Cap, 12 1.10

IRISH WHISKY.

A. John Jameson's Old, Green Cap, 8 0.75

B. John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Cap, 10 1.00

C. John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Cap, 12 1.10

GENUINE BOTTLED WHISKY.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Cap, 4.50 0.40

B. Fine Old Blend, White Cap, 4.50 0.40

C. Fine A. V. H. Blend, 5.25 0.50

RUM.

A. Fine Old Jamaica, White Cap, 12 1.00

B. Good Lowland, 1.50 per Gallon.

LIQUORS.

A. Benedictine, 1.50 per Gallon.

B. Benedictine, 1.50 per Gallon.

C. Benedictine, 1.50 per Gallon.

D. Benedictine, 1.50 per Gallon.

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It would not willingly see a reversion to the latter. That drains are better than cess-pits is no reason why people should not agitate to have the drains made as perfect as possible, but it does seem a reason why they should not accuse the Government of any very great crime in having laid the drains.

The question of the recent excessive mortality at Kowloon was discussed at the meeting of the Sanitary Board on Friday. The figures are certainly startling. The number of deaths registered in the district in the month of November was 71 as against 41 in the same month of the previous year, which was the highest number recorded up to that time. This excessive mortality is confined to the Chinese population, but amongst the European residents there has been a considerable amount of sickness from fever, and Dr. Adams tells us that excessive sickness is also reported amongst the troops, that fifty of them were down with fever in a few days, but that there was no particular mortality because the cases were rapidly looked after. It is the duty of the Sanitary Board, if it can, to find out the cause of this sickness and the excessive mortality amongst the Chinese, and it is satisfactory to know that Mr. McCullum, the Sanitary Superintendent, is pursuing inquiries in this direction. So far the only solution that has been suggested is the sudden change in temperature which occurred at the beginning of the month. The Sanitary-General says he has been over to Kowloon several times, has spoken with the residents there, and his conclusion is that there is no reason to suppose that the sickness arose from any insidious condition of the place, but was chiefly due to climatic influences. Without this explanation, however, the figures standing alone might cause an amount of apprehension which is hardly justified by facts. The suddenness of the increase in the mortality would seem to lend almost the force of demonstration to the explanation suggested by the Sanitary-General. In September the number of deaths in the Kowloon registration district was 39, in October 45, and last month 71. There has been no change in the sanitary conditions of the district during the three months named, and the explanation of the increase of mortality must therefore be sought elsewhere. But that this cause is to be found in climatic conditions, such as the sudden change in temperature, an interesting inquiry is opened up as to why the excessive mortality should be confined to the Kowloon district. Can it be that there is some unhealthy influence in the soil there which is liberated by the sudden change from heat to cold and which does not exist in other parts of the colony? This seems a rather far-fetched suggestion, but without some explanation it is difficult to imagine why the sudden change in the temperature should have proved so deadly at Kowloon only. Whatever the mode of its operation, however, whether directly on the human system or indirectly by liberating some poisonous agent from the soil, or a combination of both, the evidence points to the change in temperature as the primary cause. The question then naturally suggests itself whether such changes could not be foretold and to some extent provided against. The close connection between the meteorological and hygienic sciences is well known, and if in this colony we had a system of weather forecasts, for which we already have the appliances, it is possible the information that a cold snap might be expected to set in suddenly about a certain time, might, at least in some cases, lead to precautions being taken which would diminish the chance of the contraction of illness. In a place like Hongkong, where for the greater part of the year people sleep with their windows open, a sudden change of the temperature during the night leads to a good deal of sickness in the shape of colds with feverish symptoms. The general opinion of people are careless in such matters, and will continue so, but with respect to a body of troops under canvas, whose health is supposed to be specially watched over, timely warning of changes in the temperature ought to lead to the adoption of adequate precautions.

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An inquiry was held at the Magistrate's Court on Saturday, when H. E. Wodehouse, complaining the death of the man who remains were found after the late fire at Quarry Bay. Nothing was said as to the cause of the death. A verdict of accidental death was found.

The New Italian gunboat *Vulturno*, built at Venice, and fitted with all the most improved machinery, was to have sailed for Hongkong on Saturday morning, but it will not leave until the 10th inst. After visiting the Coast of Japan, she will go to the River Plate as an addition to the squadron there.

Woodley's Circus had another crowded house on Saturday evening, and the various feats of the clever combination which the Woodleys have drawn together seemed to be appreciated, if possible, more than ever. There was also a very fair attendance at the matinee. As advertised the company give two performances daily.

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